

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	Examiner: H. LE
A. GALET, et al.)	
)	Art Unit: 2643
Serial No.: 09/101,601)	
)	
Filed: September 14, 1998)	
)	
For: IMPROVEMENT TO AN)	
ELECTROACOUSTIC)	
COMMUNICATION DEVICE)	
FOR USE ON PROTECTIVE)	
HEADGEAR)	
)	
Date of Last Office Action:)	
July 2, 2001)	
)	
Attorney Docket:)	Cleveland, OH 44114
GSQ 2 0017)	September 10, 2001

APPENDIX 1Clean Copy of Pending Claims (After Amendment)

1. (Thrice Amended) A protective headgear equipped with an electroacoustic communication device comprising a case including:

an acoustic pick-up, and
a speaker,

the headgear further comprising:

an external principle shell made of rigid material including two lateral wall portions covering and corresponding to zones occupied by ears of a user; and

connection means to attach and position said case inside of said principle shell in one of the zones occupied by the ear of the user, the connection means including a removable connection between the case of the communication device and the headgear.

2. (Twice Amended) A protective headgear comprising:

a case including an extension that defines a connection tab which is engaged in a lateral guide of complementary shape in said protective headgear;

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an electroacoustic type communication device including an acoustic pick-up and a speaker housed in the case;

10 an external principle shell including two lateral wall portions covering and corresponding to zones occupied by ears of a user; and,

15 connection means to attach and position said case, acoustic pick-up, and speaker inside of said headgear in one of the zones occupied by the ear of the user, the connection means including a removable connection between the case of the communication device and the headgear.

3. (Amended) The protective headgear equipped with an electroacoustic type communication device according to claim 2, wherein the lateral guide is integral with a support piece attached to the external
5 shell of said headgear.

4. (Amended) The protective headgear equipped with an electroacoustic type communication device according to claim 3, wherein the headgear includes:
10 a deformable lining comprising a headband retaining a deformable partition, said headband being fixed to the headgear by the lateral guide which holds the communication device.

5. (Thrice Amended) A protective headgear equipped with an electroacoustic type communication device comprising:

a rigid external principle shell which is shaped to conform with a user's head and having integral lateral rigid wall portions which define ear protection zones that cover ears of an associated user;

a case detachably attached inside of the rigid principle shell within the one of the ear zones;

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10 a speaker disposed inside the case within the ear zone; and

an acoustic pick-up disposed inside the case within the ear zone.

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8. (Twice Amended) A protective headgear equipped with an electroacoustic type communication device comprising:

5 an external principle shell which is shaped to conform with a user's head and having lateral wall portions which define ear zones that cover ears of an associated user;

a case detachably attached inside of the headgear within the one of the ear zones;

10 a speaker disposed inside the case within the ear zone;

an acoustic pick-up disposed inside the case within the ear zone;

a chin-strap having an attachment means; and

15 a connection cable connected to the case and retained at the headgear in its center portion by an attachment device which is configured to interconnect with the attachment means of the chin-strap.

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20 9. (Twice Amended) The protective headgear equipped with an electroacoustic type communication device according to claim ⁵8, wherein the case comprises:

two slots, a first cylindrical slot for receiving the acoustic pick-up and a second cylindrical slot for receiving the speaker.

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10. (Amended) The protective headgear equipped with an electroacoustic type communication device according to claim ⁷9, wherein the acoustic pick-up is located above the speaker.

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11. (Amended) A protective headgear comprising:

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a shell having an interior and an exterior;
a deformable structure mounted to the shell
interior for supporting the shell on a user's head, the
5 deformable structure and the shell defining ear receiving
areas;

at least one tab receiving guide mounted to the
interior of the shell adjacent one of the ear receiving
areas;

10 a case having a tab which is selectively
engagable with the guide for removably mounting the case
to the shell adjacent the ear receiving areas;

a microphone/speaker assembly mounted in the
case; and

15 a transmitter/receiver assembly electrically
connected with the microphone/speaker assembly.

12. (Unamended) The protective headgear
according to claim 11 further including:

a chin strap connected with the shell;

an electrical cable connected between the
5 transmitter/receiver assembly and microphone/speaker
assembly;

a cable guide which is (i) releasably
interconnected to an intermediate portion of the
electrical cable and (ii) releasably attached to the chin
10 strap.